

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A unit capable of being listed on at least one exchange, said unit comprising:
  - an equity component and a debt component, said equity component being detachable from said debt component;
  - said unit having a significant yield;
  - said equity component comprised of common stock;
  - said debt component having a fixed maturity period of approximately 30 years or less; and,
  - said debt component being puttable back to an issuer after expiration of a certain put period.
2. The unit of Claim 1, wherein said certain put period is approximately ten years or less.
3. The unit of Claim 2, wherein said certain put period is in the range of approximately five years to approximately ten years.
4. The unit of Claim 2, further comprising said debt component being again puttable back to said issuer after expiration of a second put period, wherein said second put period is at least five years after said certain put period.

5. The unit of Claim 4, further comprising said debt component being puttable back to said issuer after at least four put periods prior to maturity of said debt component.

6. The unit of Claim 1, wherein said significant yield is in the range of greater than approximately 5%.

7. The unit of Claim 1, wherein said debt component further includes an interest deferral period for said issuer of said unit, wherein said interest deferral period is triggered based upon a condition relating to said issuer.

8. The unit of Claim 1, wherein said debt component further includes at least one guarantee.

9. The unit of Claim 8, wherein said guarantee is provided on a subordinated basis by an operating entity of said issuer of said unit.

10. The unit of Claim 1, further comprising said debt component being puttable back to said issuer upon failure of said issuer to meet at least one technical covenant.

11. The unit of Claim 1, further comprising said equity component including a dividend paid on a quarterly basis.

12. The unit of Claim 1, further comprising said debt component including a coupon paid on a quarterly basis.

13. A capital structure, comprising:

an issuer having at least one unit issued to at least one of a unit investor and a shareholder of said issuer;

said issued unit capable of being listed on at least one exchange, said issued unit including an equity component and a debt component, said equity component being detachable from said debt component; said unit having a significant yield; said debt component having a fixed maturity period of approximately 30 years or less; said equity component comprised of common stock; and, said shareholder having a holdback equity ownership interest in said issuer of at least approximately 10% of outstanding equity of said issuer.

14. The capital structure of Claim 13, wherein said shareholder is a shareholder of said issuer prior to issuance of said issued unit.

15. The capital structure of Claim 14, wherein said shareholder heldback equity ownership interest represents an aggregate interest of a plurality of said shareholders.

16. The capital structure of Claim 13, further comprising an original entity associated with said issuer, wherein said shareholder is a shareholder of said original entity prior to issuance of said issued unit.

17. The capital structure of Claim 16, wherein said shareholder heldback equity ownership interest represents an aggregate interest of a plurality of said shareholders.
18. The capital structure of Claim 13, wherein at least a portion of said heldback equity ownership interest is exchangeable for an amount of said issued unit.
19. The capital structure of Claim 13, wherein said equity component includes a dividend paid on a quarterly basis.
20. The capital structure of Claim 13, wherein said debt component includes a coupon paid on a quarterly basis.
21. A method for arranging for issuance of a unit, said method comprising the steps of:
  - structuring a unit comprising an equity component and a debt component, said equity component being detachable from said debt component; said unit having a significant yield; said equity component comprised of common stock; said debt component having a fixed maturity period of approximately 30 years or less; said debt component being puttable back to an issuer after expiration of a certain put period; and,
  - arranging for issuance of said structured unit.
22. A capital structure, comprising:

an issuer having at least one unit issued to at least one of a unit investor and a shareholder of said issuer;

said issued unit capable of being listed on at least one exchange, said issued unit including an equity component and a debt component, said equity component being detachable from said debt component; said unit having a significant yield; said debt component having a fixed maturity period of approximately 30 years or less; said equity component comprised of common stock; and,

a third party debt holder having a held debt interest of at least approximately 10% of issuer debt, wherein said held debt interest is in the form of at least one debt instrument of said issuer including terms substantially similar to terms associated with said debt component, and wherein said issuer debt comprises said at least one debt instrument and said debt component of said issued unit, and wherein said third party debt holder is not said unit investor and is not said shareholder.

23. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said held debt interest of said third party debt holder represents an aggregate interest of a plurality of said third party debt holders.

24. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said substantially similar terms include coupon and maturity period.

25. The capital structure of Claim 24, wherein said coupon is paid on a quarterly basis.

26. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said substantially similar terms include interest deferral period, at least one put option, and at least one guarantee.
27. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said substantially similar terms include substantially all said terms associated with said debt component except principal amount.
28. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said equity component includes a dividend paid on a quarterly basis.
29. The capital structure of Claim 22, wherein said debt component includes a coupon paid on a quarterly basis.